

March 18, 1975

PRESIDENT: Senator Dickinson. We're now on Senator DeCamp's amendment. Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I hope Senator DeCamp pays attention, cause he happens to be wrong on this issue. The situation has been taken care of for the Department of Highway Safety, as we objected in committee. The money has been found. I think appropriations people could answer this. The money was found in the Department of Highway Safety in another section Senator DeCamp. The money's not needed anymore. When we had it brought up in committee we thought the proper method was to attack this issue through appropriations, as anybody else would have to do, in the Motor Vehicle Department, where they asked for these appropriations, start tacking it onto bills that are going through the legislative process. Now, as one of the fiscal analysts came to me and asked . . . I asked them if they could find this money for the highway safety in some department. He said that they had an excess of ninety some thousand in the Highway Safety Department in another division and that he would transfer \$75,000 over within its own agency. The Fiscal Staff member did transfer \$75,000 in the Highway Safety fund. They now have the cash fund. So it's available. Senator DeCamp's amendment is not needed.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I happen to be on that committee too and all of a sudden it's confused. I am in favor of getting this money to this traffic safety school, but now we have one person saying, yes we need in the way of this amendment. Another one from the committee says, no it's been found. I'd like to have that question directed to our Appropriations chairman, Senator Barnett, to see if this is true or if it isn't. At the moment I don't know what is true and what isn't. Perhaps you would like to direct that question to the Appropriations chairman. OK?

I'd like to ask Senator Marvel a question please. Senator Marvel, could you tell us if this is true that this money has been approved by the Appropriations Committee whereby it will not be necessary for us to take this \$1 out of the amendment, as Senator DeCamp has suggested?

SENATOR MARVEL: I don't . . . I'm not familiar with this particular area. I can get an answer for you. I can tell you this, no member of Fiscal Staff has told Mr. Sullivan, of the Motor Vehicle Department, that this is the way to operate. This is the way to fragment the system so that you, in the Legislature, have no handle on the expenditures. This is no way to do it. If Mr. Sullivan wants the money he should come directly and ask for it. Then at the appropriate time it will be pointed out to you as a part of the Motor Vehicle . . . or as the Departments funds. I realize we have a difference of opinion, but I'm opposed to taking income and earmarking that income for specific activities. The departments then begin to feel they own that money. That they don't have to report to you on the expenditures. As far as I'm concerned, they bypass you in the process. In direct answer to your question, I cannot, at this moment, answer as to whether this money has been appropriated. I'll be glad to find out.